

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 were presented for examination in the present application. The instant amendment cancels claims 1 and 10-13 without prejudice. Thus, claims 2-9 and 14-16 remain pending upon entry of the instant amendment, which is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5, 9, and 16. Accordingly, these claims have been amended into independent format. In addition, claims 2-4 and 6-9 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 5, while claims 14-15 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 16.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-9 and 14-16 are now in condition for issuance. Entry and consideration of the instant amendment are therefore respectfully requested. Such action is solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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